

Remarks/Arguments

Applicant thanks the Examiner for her careful consideration of this application and for the helpful telephone discussion with Applicant's undersigned representative on February 10, 2006. Applicant requests entry of the above amendments and requests reconsideration of this application in view of those amendments and in view of the remarks to follow.

Claims 2-26, 28-31, and 33-39 are now pending in the application, with Claims 9, 18, 28, and 33 being the independent claims. Claim 32 has been cancelled without prejudice to pursuing its subject matter in the future.

Based on the above amendments and the following remarks, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider all outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn.

The Office Action, at page 3, allows Claims 2-26, 28-31, and 33-39. Applicant gratefully acknowledges the allowance of these claims.

At page 2, the Office Action rejects Claim 32 under 35 U.S.C. §§ 101 and 112, second paragraph. Despite their disagreement with these rejections, Applicant has elected to cancel Claim 32, for the sake of expedience. It is, therefore, respectfully submitted that these rejections are now moot and should be withdrawn.

Applicant respectfully states that the above amendments are not to be understood as indicating concurrence with the characterizations of the claims found in the Office Action.

Applicant(s): SLAVIN
Appl. No. 09/715,068

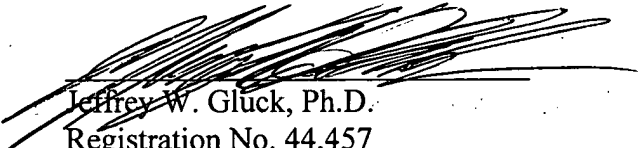
Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding rejections and that they be withdrawn. Applicant believes that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is hereby invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment and Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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